

REMARKS

Claims 6 and 7 are now pending in this application. Claim 1 is rejected. Claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 2-5 are previously cancelled. New claims 6-7 are added.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

Section 112 Rejection

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite based on the recitation that the camera comprises a plurality of cameras. The rejection is moot based on the cancellation of claim 1.

Section 103 Rejections and the Cited Art

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,859,778) in view of Mottur (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0018124). Claim 1 is cancelled.

Kuroda et al. was previously cited in an earlier office action. The applicant maintains the remarks and distinctions over the Kuroda reference as previously submitted.

Mottur disclose a method of real time camera control over a network such as the internet.

The Claims Distinguished

New claims 6 and 7 add limitations not previously recited in claim 1. No new matter is added. Support for respective features is provided herein.

Support for the coin laundry store is found, for example, at page 18, lines 8-10 and page 26, lines 1-3.

Support for the central control device being connected via the internet is found, for example, at page 13, line 19 to page 15, line 16, page 24, line 1 to page 5 line 3 and page 32 line 47 to page 33 line 8.

Support for the central control device comprising ... is found, for example, at page 15, lines 6-23, page 16 line 20 to page 18 line 1, page 23 line 3, page 25 line 15, and page 31 line 19.

Support for the network cameras is found, for example, at page 17 line 18 to page 18 line 3, page 25 line 11 to page 26 line 10, and from page 33 line 16 to page 34 line 14.

Support for the last 6 lines of claim 6 is found, for example, at page 15 lines 12-16, page 15 line 20 to page 16 line 8, page 16 lines 17-21, page 19 lines 3-9, page 24 lines 5-20, page 27 lines 9-15, page 32 lines 7-20, and page 33 lines 9-15.

Support for the last paragraph of claim 7 is found, for example, at page 24 lines 14-20.

Claim 6 distinguishes over the cited art based at least on the following claim limitations:

- the at least one store side monitor being connected to the at least one network camera via a LAN;
- the central control device being connected to the data controller and the at least one network camera via an internet,
- each one of the at least one network camera have controllable zoom, pan and tilt functions for obtaining image moving data from inside and outside the store, the central control device further comprising means for individually and remotely controlling the zoom, pan and tilt functions of each respective one of the at least one network camera by using a global IP address or domain name corresponding to said respective one of the at least one network camera;
- wherein the central control device and the at least one network camera are constantly connected to the internet; and
- wherein the moving image data of the inside and outside of the store taken by the at least one network camera at the store is constantly uploaded via the internet to a website as moving images

in near real time on the monitor of the central control device at the administrator side.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited art does not disclose the above features that make it possible to exchange visual information between a customer and a remote administrator mutually and simultaneously. Such features give both the customer and the administrator a sense of presence enabling the administrator to address the customer's needs in a flexible and immediate manner.

The administrator can select the store side network camera which is connected via the LAN to the store side monitor and control the network camera remotely in order to show the store side customer(s) or dishonest actor(s) the moving image on the store side monitor.

A remote administrator can show a laundry customer the exact situation of a problem that has arisen in or with a coin laundry device on the store side monitor by remotely controlling the directional orientation and zoom of the camera. Such control is based not only on the coin laundry device data but also the moving image data of the coin laundry store in near real time that is sent to the central control device from the data controller and the network camera via the internet. It is possible for the administrator to select the store side network camera which is connected via the LAN to the store side monitor by using a global IP address or a domain name which is given to each of the network cameras and controls the network camera remotely in order to show the store side customer(s) necessary

images on the store side monitor. On viewing the same moving image as the store side monitor's image on the administrator side monitor, the administrator further remotely controls the zoom, pan and tilt function of the network camera which is connected to the coin laundry store side monitor via the LAN. Therefore, the administrator is enabled to have the store side monitor display the most required and appropriate moving image.

By connecting the central control device via the internet, it is possible to browse the images of a number of stores on a website simultaneously so that the administrator may respond to the needs of a customer or the current situation in the store rapidly. It also is convenient for the coin laundry customers to check the status of use of the coin laundry device not only on the monitor in the store, but also from a terminal device which is capable of connecting to the internet from the inside and outside of their home.

The controlled functions of the network camera allow the remote administrator to target and blow up the image of the inside and outside of the store to an accurate trouble point.

By remotely controlling the directional orientation and zoom of the at least one network camera the administrator can target and accurately display a trouble point inside the store on his monitor and also the store side monitor. For example, in the case that a coin laundry customer contacts the administrator via phone to make a query about a method of operating a laundry device, the administrator remotely can

control the zoom, pan and tilt function of the network camera connected to the store side monitor using a global IP address or a domain name assigned to the respective camera. The administrator also can have the store side monitor display a useful image to indicate the place of operation and explain the way of operating the laundry device while allowing the customer to view the image on the store side monitor at the administrator's free judgment.

The administrator also can give the customer precise advice in case a customer is not sure whether particular clothing or bedclothes are appropriate to the laundry devices concerning the conditions, materials or size. The administrator may request that the customer show care instructions of the objects to be washed and remotely control the zoom, pan and tilt function of the camera in order to view in detail the words of the care instructions, the condition of the material and also its size. The administrator then can give an appropriate advice to the customer.

Furthermore, a remote administrator may identify suspicious or criminal acts at the store site by remotely controlling the directional orientation and zoom of the network camera. By this means the administrator is allowed not only to see the dishonest act in detail, but also display a close-up of the dishonest acts on the store side monitor. As a result, there is enhanced prevention of dishonest acts.

The coin laundry management system according to the present invention may use a constantly connected line to send moving image data taken by the network camera and coin laundry device data to the central control device

independent of the receipt of a signal indicating a problem from any of the sensors. Thus, it is possible to remotely operate a coin laundry device according to the real time moving images of the inside and outside of the store exactly and timely.

In summary, the above-listed features allow a coin laundry management system having a remote administrator to operate just as effectively as a coin laundry management system having an on-site administrator.

Claim 7 distinguishes over the cited art based on the same features as discussed for claim 6. Claim 7 further distinguishes over the cited art based at least on the following additional limitations:

- wherein the central control device based on administrator input may select first data and second data stored at the magnetic disc device via the internet, restore said select first data as a still image and restore said select second data as motion images, and display and playback the restored still image and restored motion images on a website at a selected time interval, wherein a webpage viewer may selectively view the restored still image and restored motion images.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited art does not disclose steps or devices which allow an administrator to freely select among data stored on a magnetic disc of a server to selectively restore still images and motion images.

Specifically, the cited art do not disclose an ability to playback past videos, past still images, or past motion images on a monitor.

Request for Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully requests a three month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. **The fee of \$555.00 for the extension is provided for in the charge authorization presented in the PTO Form 2038, Credit Card Payment form, provided herewith.**

If there is any discrepancy between the fee(s) due and the fee payment authorized in the Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 or the Form PTO-2038 is missing or fee payment via the Form PTO-2038 cannot be processed, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By C. Bruce Hamburg
C. Bruce Hamburg
Reg. No. 22,389
Attorney for Applicants

and,

By SA P Koda
Steven P. Koda
Reg. No. 32,252
Attorney for Applicants

by
to

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340

enc: Form PTO-2038.